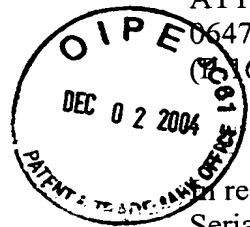


2661

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

PATENT APPLICATION  
USSN 10/042,813

064731.0250  
(8164US-1)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: GUMASTE, Ashwin  
Serial No.: 10/042,813  
Filing Date: January 9, 2002  
Confirmation No.: 7683  
Art Unit: 2661  
Title: *Interconnection Nodes in an Optical Communication System*

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Esmarie A. Garland  
Esmarie A. Garland

November 29, 2004  
Date of Signature

**Request for Status**

Please advise the status of the above-identified patent application. The Filing Receipt was mailed by the Patent Office on February 6, 2002. Applicant currently awaits a first Office Action.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.702(a)(1), it has been over fourteen months since the filing date of this Application and a Notification under 35 U.S.C. § 132 has not been received. Thus, a period of adjustment of patent term due to examination delay is accruing in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(a)(1).

If there are any matters that can be cleared up through a telephone conversation, please contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicant

Kurt M. Pankratz  
Reg. No. 46,977

Date: Nov 29, 2004

**Customer ID No. 05073**